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17 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: DPD Comptroller

SUBJECT: Concept of Operations - FY-1962 and FY-1963

Attached hereto is the Concept of Operations for the Special Projects Branch, DPD, for Fiscal Years 1962 and 1963.

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DPD

Attachment - As noted above

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CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS
SPECIAL PROJECTS BRANCH DPD

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PART II CORONA

(to be distributed separately)

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(to be distributed separately)

TAB A

OPERATIONS ACCOMPLISHED FY-61

1. Detachment B was reduced during December 1960 - January 1961 from a fully operational Detachment to a holding force of [] personnel, one aircraft, and minimum ground support equipment. All special equipment was transferred to Detachment C and the depot at Warner-Robins. During the reduction period personnel were provided by this Detachment to support []

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2. Detachment C at Edwards Air Force Base, California, was converted from a development and test unit to a fully operational IDEALIST Detachment. Reorganization was accomplished during August 1960 and operational training completed in September 1960. The first staging operation was conducted in October 1960. During the period from 1 July 1960 to 10 February 1961 this Detachment successfully completed three staging operations and provided aircraft and equipment in support of a fourth staging operation. Additionally, [] was formed at Edwards Air Force Base. Detachment C provided facilities, equipment, and personnel to train and equip the new Detachment.

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3. Detachment H was formed at Edwards Air Force Base during November 1960. Initial deployment of personnel and equipment [] was accomplished in November 1960 and the final aircraft was in place February 1961. The Detachment completed the training program and was declared operationally ready January 1961. No Headquarters directed missions have been conducted to date.

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TAB BPLANNED OPERATIONS FY-61

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1. Twelve tactical reconnaissance missions in support of [redacted] This operation will involve a 30 day deployment to a staging base and will consist of two U-2 aircraft, associated special equipment, and personnel. A minimum of ground support equipment and spare parts will be moved.

2. Nine missions to be conducted from the Detachment's permanent location. Initial planning for this operation has been completed and forwarded for approval. Upon approval the sortie rate will average two per month.

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3. [redacted] requirements. This operation will involve a 20 day deployment of two U-2 aircraft, support equipment, spares, and operating personnel to Hickam Air Force Base, Honolulu, Hawaii. This requirement is recurring on a semi-annual basis to be accomplished the second and fourth quarter of each year.

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4. Continued planning for the development for a new Detachment similar to [redacted] to be located in the Near East area. It is not anticipated that actual operations will be accomplished during Fiscal Year 1961, however, based on this proposal the requirement exists for preparing facilities and training pilots.

5. Four missions in the Near East using facilities at Adana, Turkey. This operation will involve a 30 day TDY for personnel and minimum airlift for special equipment and spares. No deployment of aircraft will be required.

6. Inflight refueling and [redacted] modifications and test programs will be completed with one aircraft.

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TAB C

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS - FY-62 AND FY-63

1. DEPLOYMENT:

a. The continued exploitation of the operational capability of the U-2 aircraft and associated special equipment will require permanent operating Detachments in the ZI and at overseas bases. Each operating Detachment will be fully equipped and manned to accomplish photographic and [redacted] Detachment C permanently located at Edwards AFB, California, will maintain the capability to stage to forward bases and conduct reconnaissance operations anywhere in the world. Additionally, this Detachment retains the responsibility of continuing the development program as new equipment comes into the inventory. United States pilots will be based with Detachment C. Overseas Detachments will be organized similar to the [redacted] with United States supervisors and maintenance personnel and [redacted] Overseas bases at Adana, Turkey, [redacted] is maintained. Attachment #1 contains a list of bases to be used for staging or ferry operations.

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2. MISSION AND MISSION PLANNING:

a. Mission: To conduct overflight and peripheral aerial reconnaissance (photographic and ELINT) of denied or hostile territory on a world-wide basis in support of National Intelligence Objectives of the United States.

b. Mission planning for reconnaissance flights will be accomplished by Headquarters.

c. Reconnaissance operations will be programmed to cover targets of interest to the United States as developed by the Committee for Overhead Reconnaissance (COMOR). Detailed mission plans will be the result of continuous study of the latest information regarding political considerations and intelligence requirements as well as operating techniques and procedures to assure successful mission accomplishment.

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1. When not in conflict with photographic and ELINT reconnaissance operations the Detachment will support world-wide

Present plans require a tentative deployment on a semi-annual basis in the second and fourth quarter of each fiscal year through 1963. Additional expenses in connection with these deployments, such as airlift facilities, search and rescue coverage, etc., will be funded by

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3. UTILIZATION:

a. Flying hours accomplished and techniques employed during directed reconnaissance missions will be accredited to the training program for the Detachment and the individuals concerned. In addition, a continuous training program will be conducted by each permanent Detachment to assure the operational capability to conduct reconnaissance operations on a world-wide basis without additional training.

b. During the fourth quarter, Fiscal Year 1961, the In-Flight Refueling Modification will be completed on one aircraft and extensive training will be conducted. Pilots will require actual flight training and supervisory training will be accomplished for planning and coordination of reconnaissance operations and tanker aircraft requirements.

4. PRIMARY MISSION CAPABILITIES:

In addition to photographic and [redacted] which would be carried on overflight missions, it will be necessary to

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[redacted]
overflights are not in progress. [redacted]
operations is available and operational. This capability will be regularly exercised in the training program at Edwards AFB, California. A list of required equipment is attached as Attachment #3.

5. MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT:

In order to maintain the high reliability of aircraft and equipment, the concept of contractor maintenance will be continued. In addition, processing of overflight photography by Eastman Kodak will be continued. (Personnel strength will remain as stipulated in current T.O.'s, with possible minor adjustments).

6. CONTROL:

Overflights and peripheral flights will be controlled by Headquarters to insure efficient target coverage and compatibility of operations with National policy.

7. SORTIE RATE:

Estimated sortie rate and flying hours by type of mission will be as indicated in Attachment #2.

8. SUPPORT:

a. Support will be required from the following echelons. This support will be in accordance with current directives and agreements.

(1) Headquarters USAF for military personnel, common logistics, special airlift, and to serve as intermediary on liaison matters. AFGIG-5 will be the channel for support to all subordinate headquarters.

(2) Theater Commanders for air base facilities, logistic support, airlift requirements and for special liaison.

(3) Strategic Air Command for certain air base facilities, personnel, logistics support, and liaison matters.

(4) Airways Air Communications System for communications support.

(5) Headquarters Air Weather Service for weather support.

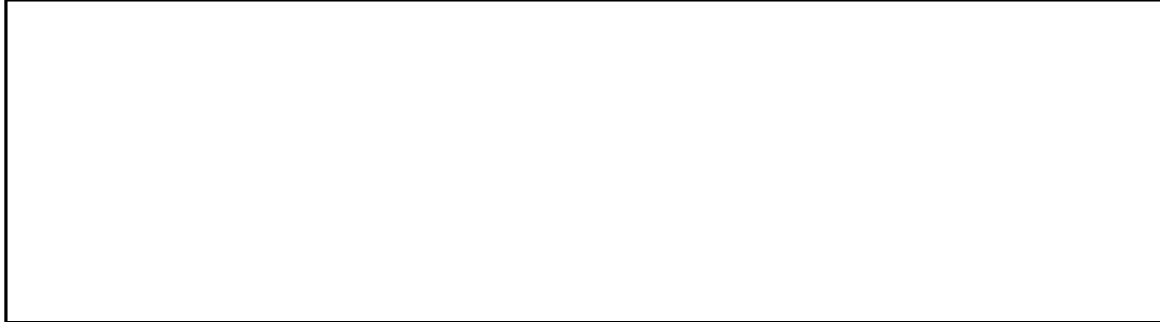
(6) National Security Agency for special intelligence reaction reports.

(7) National Technical Processing Center for ELINT readout.

(8) Department of State for negotiation for use rights to operate from foreign countries.

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II. PRE-HOSTILITIES PERIOD:

a. If international relationships deteriorate to a point where hostilities are considered imminent, penetration and peripheral photographic and ELINT sorties will be conducted at a maximum rate which available personnel, aircraft, and equipment can support. Although the military services have photographic and ELINT collection capabilities in the overseas theaters, the U-2's are the only operational, United States manned, strategic reconnaissance capability.

b. During the period it will be essential that the maximum amount of potential strategic areas of interest be photographed so as to provide:

(1) Most probable time when an attack would be launched.

(2) Size of the available attack force.

(3) Type and extent of probable attack.

(4) Locations from where attacking forces and/or missiles would be launched.

(5) Over-all capability to sustain an attack.

(6) Most current target data for friendly attacking forces to use for retaliation.

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c. Current electronic intelligence will be necessary to make available the frequencies and locations of radars so that:

(1) Friendly attacking forces can employ jamming techniques most effectively.

(2) Weak spots can be located through which attacking forces can penetrate with the least probability of interception.

(3) Radar guidance of interceptors and/or missiles can be interrupted.

d. During the pre-hostilities period operational control will remain with Project Headquarters. Deployment to rear bases (Attachment #2) may be necessary as dictated by the existing situation. Project resources will be utilized, on a first priority basis, to obtain reconnaissance coverage of SAC objectives as outlined in Appendix I to Annex B, SAC Operations Order #1009.

12. HOSTILITIES:

a. When hostilities break out, Project overseas assets will revert to the operational control of the Strategic Air Command under the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This transfer to control and assignment will be in accordance with the provisions of a Joint Agreement (CHAL 9239), dated 19 July 1958, with USAF, DCS/C, concurrence date 24 September 1958, and in accordance with the IDEALIST EWP Operational Plan, dated 20 January 1959. Upon execution of the SAC 50 series EWO, SAC Operations Order Number 1009, Appendix 2 to Annex B contains the necessary instructions for utilization of IDEALIST resources.

b. Military personnel will be effected in accordance with the arrangements contained in the Personnel Annex of the above mentioned transfer agreement.

c. It is planned that civilian personnel will continue to function until relieved by military personnel.

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4. 6000 foot rolls of film will be standard for all Headquarters directed photo missions. (Present stocks of 4000 foot rolls will be used when possible until supply is exhausted).

5. Planned operations identical for FY-1962 and FY-1963.

6. Additional flying hours required for test programs will be provided through use of aircraft in storage.

7. U-2 flying hours required per year for FY-1962 and FY-1963 = 1872 hours.

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